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United Nations

Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

2011 substantive session (New York, 22 February-18 March and 9 May 2011)

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Note

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[12 May 2011]

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Chapter I
Introduction

1. By its resolution 64/266, the General Assembly welcomed the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/64/19); decided that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, should continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and should review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field; and requested the Committee to submit a report on its work to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.

Chapter II
Organizational matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

2. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations held its 2011 session at United Nations Headquarters from 22 February to 18 March and on 9 May 2011 and held five formal meetings.

3. The session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations. At the 217th (opening) meeting, on 22 February, the President of the General Assembly, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support made statements.

4. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support provided support to the Committee on substantive issues, while the Disarmament and Peace Affairs Branch of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management served as the technical secretariat of the Committee.

B. Election of officers

5. At its 217th meeting, the Committee elected its officers by acclamation, as follows:

Chair:
Mrs. U. Joy Ogwu (Nigeria)

Vice-Chairs:
Mr. Diego Limeres (Argentina)
Mr. Gilles Rivard (Canada)
Ms. Asako Okai (Japan)
Mr. Zbigniew Szlęk (Poland)

Rapporteur:
Mr. Mohamed Sarwat Selim (Egypt)

C. Agenda

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda (A/AC.121/2011/L.1), which read:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. General debate.
6. Consideration of the draft report by the Working Group of the Whole.
7. Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session.
8. Other matters.

7. The Committee also approved its draft programme of work (A/AC.121/2011/L.2).

D. Organization of work

8. At its 217th meeting, on 22 February, the Committee decided to establish a working group of the whole, to be chaired by Gilles Rivard (Canada), to consider the substance of the mandate entrusted to the Committee by the General Assembly.

9. At the same meeting, the Chair announced that Lesotho and Nicaragua had become members of the Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/136. The composition of the Committee at its 2011 session is contained in the annex to the present report. The list of documents for the session is contained in document A/AC.121/2011/INF/2/Rev.1 and the list of participants at the session is contained in document A/AC.121/2011/INF/3.

E. Proceedings of the Committee

10. At its 217th to 220th meetings, on 22 and 23 February, the Committee held a general debate on a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects. Statements were made by the representatives of Morocco (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Hungary (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine, which aligned themselves with the statement), Canada (on behalf of Canada, Australia and New Zealand), Chile (on behalf of the Rio Group), Thailand (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Fiji (on behalf of the Group of Asian States), the United States of America, Indonesia, Brazil, Peru, Bangladesh, Norway, China, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Mexico, Switzerland, Fiji, Turkey, Singapore, Pakistan, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), South Africa, Uruguay, Egypt, Qatar, Israel, Eritrea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Rwanda, the Philippines, Nicaragua, Benin, Jamaica, Kenya, Serbia, the Republic of Korea, the United Republic of Tanzania, Burkina Faso, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Nepal, Cuba, Japan, Ecuador, Lebanon, Nigeria, Montenegro and New Zealand.

11. From 24 to 28 February, briefings were presented to the Working Group of the Whole on the following topics: the capability-driven approach to peacekeeping; the protection of civilians; operational (including military and police) issues; the field support strategy; the peacekeeping-peacebuilding nexus; gender and peacekeeping; the legal aspects of the monitoring and surveillance technology policy; and personnel selection processes.

12. The Working Group of the Whole and its eight sub-working groups met from 7 to 18 March and on 9 May, and concluded their work on draft recommendations.

Chapter III
Consideration of the draft report of the Working Group

13. At its 221st meeting, on 9 May, the Committee considered the recommendations of the Working Group of the Whole and decided to include its recommendations in the current report (see paras. 15-278) for consideration by the General Assembly.

Chapter IV

Adoption of the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session

14. At its 221st meeting, on 9 May 2011, the Committee adopted its draft report to the General Assembly, as introduced by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

Chapter V
Proposals, recommendations and conclusions

A. Introduction

15. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, in making its recommendations, reaffirms the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.

16. The Special Committee pays tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve in peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage. Particular tribute is due to those who have given their lives for the maintenance of peace and security.

17. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of 29 May, the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, as providing an occasion to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in serving the cause of peace.

18. The Special Committee reaffirms that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the United Nations, in accordance with the Charter, and affirms that United Nations peacekeeping is one of the key instruments available to the United Nations in discharging that responsibility. The Special Committee, as the only United Nations forum mandated to review comprehensively the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, including measures aimed at enhancing the capacity of the Organization to conduct United Nations peacekeeping operations, is uniquely able to make a significant contribution in the area of issues and policy relating to United Nations peacekeeping operations. It encourages other United Nations bodies, funds and programmes to avail themselves of the Special Committee's particular perspective on United Nations peacekeeping operations. Thus, the Special Committee, as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, recalls that its recommendations and conclusions reflect, first and foremost, its unique peacekeeping expertise.

19. Noting the continued efforts of United Nations peacekeeping in various parts of the world, which requires the participation of Member States in various activities, the Special Committee considers it essential for the United Nations to be able to maintain international peace and security effectively. This calls for, inter alia, an improved capacity to assess conflict situations, effective planning and management of United Nations peacekeeping operations, and quick and effective responses to any Security Council mandate.

20. The Special Committee stresses the importance of consistently applying the principles and standards it has set forth for the establishment and conduct of United Nations peacekeeping operations, and emphasizes the need to continue to consider those principles, as well as definitions of peacekeeping, in a systematic fashion. New proposals or conditions concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations should be the subject of thorough consideration in the Special Committee.

21. The Special Committee, acknowledging the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the direction and control of United Nations peacekeeping operations, requests the Secretariat to provide, at least at the start of its substantive session in 2012, an informal briefing, especially with regard to operational field issues, including the Secretariat's assessment of developments in ongoing United Nations peacekeeping operations.

22. The Special Committee recalls that United Nations peacekeeping is conducted in accordance with the relevant chapters of the Charter of the United Nations. In this regard, nothing in the present report circumscribes the primary responsibility of the Security Council for maintaining or restoring international peace and security.

B. Guiding principles, definitions and implementation of mandates

23. The Special Committee stresses that peacekeeping operations should strictly observe the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter. It emphasizes that respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State is crucial to common efforts, including peacekeeping operations, to promote international peace and security.

24. The Special Committee believes that respect for the basic principles of peacekeeping, such as the consent of the parties, impartiality and the non-use of force except in self-defence and in the defence of a mandate authorized by the Security Council, is essential to its success.

25. The Special Committee is of the view that peacekeeping operations should not be used as a substitute for addressing the root causes of conflict. Those causes should be addressed in a coherent, well-planned, coordinated and comprehensive manner, using political, social and developmental instruments. Consideration should be given to the ways in which those efforts can continue without interruption after the departure of a peacekeeping operation, so as to ensure a smooth transition to lasting peace and security and development.

26. The Special Committee continues to stress the importance of providing peacekeeping operations with clearly defined mandates, objectives and command structures, adequate resources based on a realistic assessment of the situation and secure financing, in support of efforts to achieve peaceful solutions to conflicts. It also stresses the need to ensure, in the formulation and implementation of mandates, adequate resources and congruity among mandates, resources and realizable objectives. The Special Committee emphasizes that, when changes are made to an existing mandate, commensurate changes should be made in the resources available to a peacekeeping operation for carrying out its new mandate. Changes in the mandate of an ongoing mission should be based on a thorough and timely reassessment by the Security Council in consultation with troop-contributing countries through the mechanisms prescribed in Council resolution 1353 (2001) and the note by the President of the Council dated 14 January 2002 (S/2002/56).

27. The Special Committee stresses that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, pursuant to Article 24 of the Charter.

28. The Special Committee stresses the need to ensure the unity of command of United Nations peacekeeping operations. It recalls that the overall political direction and control of United Nations peacekeeping operations are within the purview of the Security Council.

C. Restructuring of peacekeeping

29. The Special Committee stresses that successful oversight requires but is not limited to the principles of unity of command and integration of efforts at all levels, in the field and at Headquarters. The Special Committee takes note of the report on the implementation of the integrated operational teams (A/65/669) and urges the Secretariat to ensure optimal configuration of integrated operational teams through the enhancement of their flexibility and an effective use of resources.

30. The Special Committee stresses the importance of effective Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support that are efficiently structured and adequately staffed, in particular, but not exclusively, during periods of surge, transition and drawdown of peacekeeping operations, and stresses that effective coordination between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support must lead to more efficient oversight and better responsiveness to changes in the field.

31. The Special Committee underlines the importance of strengthening coherence among the various strands of policy development carried out in different areas of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support and notes the role of the Policy, Evaluation and Training Division in this process.

32. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of preserving unity of command in missions at all levels, as well as coherence in policy and strategy and clear command structures in the field and up to and including at Headquarters, and in this regard, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on the results of the evaluation on command and control arrangements for peacekeeping.

33. The Special Committee, noting the increasing complexity of United Nations peacekeeping operations, urges the Secretariat to better develop strategic communication and operational-level public information activities to ensure continued support for United Nations peacekeeping and to better respond to public perceptions of peacekeeping's role and impact on the ground.

D. Safety and security

34. The Special Committee condemns, in the strongest terms, the killing of United Nations peacekeeping personnel and all acts of violence against such personnel and recognizes that they constitute a major challenge to United Nations field operations. The Special Committee also condemns restrictions in any form on the freedom of movement of United Nations peacekeeping personnel and assets within the mandate, in particular restrictions in respect of medical evacuation. The Special Committee expresses concerns about the security threats and targeted attacks against United Nations peacekeepers in many peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretary-General to take all measures deemed necessary to strengthen

United Nations field security arrangements and improve the safety and security of all military contingents, police officers, military observers and, especially, unarmed personnel.

35. The Special Committee condemns in particular, in the strongest terms, targeted attacks against United Nations personnel and all criminal acts against such personnel, including kidnapping and carjacking. It also finds totally unacceptable any attempts to seize or destroy United Nations and contingent-owned property. The Special Committee stresses the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of United Nations peacekeeping personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognized in the Geneva Conventions.

36. The Special Committee urges those States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel and the Optional Protocol thereto. The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolution 58/82, in particular its recommendation that key provisions of the Convention, including those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, be included in status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host-country agreements negotiated between the United Nations and host countries.

37. The Special Committee underlines the importance of training peacekeeping personnel and providing them with adequate equipment for fulfilling the mandate in accordance with United Nations standards as key factors in preventing casualties and in ensuring the safety of peacekeepers. In this regard, the Special Committee underlines the respective roles of the United Nations Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries.

38. The Special Committee recognizes the critical role that Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres play in enhancing the safety and security of peacekeepers. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to report on the impact of Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres on mission performance in advance of the 2012 regular session.

39. The Special Committee notes the improvements made in the United Nations Security Risk Management model threat assessment through the introduction of the Security Level System effective 1 January 2011. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to submit a progress report on the implementation and efficiency of the new methodology during the 2012 regular session. The Special Committee also requests that threat assessments in the existing missions be provided on a regular basis during the scheduled meetings of troop- and police-contributing countries.

40. The Special Committee reiterates its request to be fully informed of investigations in peacekeeping field missions, except in misconduct cases, where relevant memorandums of understanding will apply. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to improve the information of and communication with concerned Member States whenever there is an incident in a peacekeeping mission that negatively affects operational effectiveness or results in serious injury to or death of United Nations peacekeeping personnel, from the beginning until the conclusion of the investigation of the incident. The Special Committee urges that findings of boards of inquiry with respect to serious injury or

death be immediately communicated to the Member States concerned. The Special Committee takes note with interest of the fact that new guidelines for the conduct of boards of inquiry have been developed and requests the Secretariat to make these guidelines available to Member States.

41. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly, by the end of November 2011, a further comprehensive report on all the processes involved in the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed against deployed United Nations peacekeepers. The report should encompass, inter alia, the legal rights of the troop- and police-contributing countries and the procedures for their participation in all the processes of the investigation of crimes, and acts of serious misconduct committed against their nationals deployed as United Nations peacekeepers, and include advice on the feasibility of adapting the United Nations investigative mechanism, as provided for in a revised model memorandum of understanding whose possible United Nations-wide application had been endorsed by the Assembly in resolution 61/267 B, with respect to such crimes.

42. The Special Committee stresses that any information about an occurrence in the United Nations missions involving sickness, injury or death of a peacekeeper should be brought to the notice of the Permanent Mission of the concerned Member State in a detailed and timely manner. In this regard, the Situation Centre of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations is asked, upon the occurrence of the incident, to bring information to the notice of the concerned State as soon as possible.

43. The Special Committee notes with concern that some deployed troop formations continue to be stretched to cover geographical areas that exceed their capacities. Such practices not only threaten the safety and security of those troops, but also adversely affect their performance, discipline, command and control and capacity to implement the mandate. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to present, before its next session, an assessment of the causes of such deviations and, where appropriate, proposals regarding ways to remedy the situation and to ensure that the United Nations peacekeeping personnel are deployed in accordance with the agreed concepts governing operation and deployment arrangements. Any significant adjustments in or changes to the original concept of operations, rules of engagement or force requirements should be made in close consultation with, and with the consent of, the troop-contributing countries.

44. The Special Committee underlines the importance of thoroughly vetting local security personnel hired by peacekeeping missions, including for criminal and human rights violations and links to security companies. The Special Committee takes note of the proposal for the development of a vetting policy and in this regard, requests that it be kept informed of the work of the working group established by the High-level Committee on Management to take the lead in the research and development, as appropriate, of a vetting policy.

45. The Special Committee takes note of the finalization of the draft policy on the use of monitoring and surveillance technology and related standard operating procedures and recognizes their importance in efforts to improve the safety and security of peacekeepers. The Special Committee looks forward to a report on the related legal, operational, technical and financial considerations, before

implementation of the policy, including the element of the consent of the countries concerned with regard to the application of such means in the field.

46. The Special Committee reiterates the need to further improve the joint standard operating procedures and other relevant policies so as to enhance the mechanisms in the Secretariat and the field for managing crisis situations in a well-coordinated and effective manner. In this regard it is suggested that, whenever possible, planned crisis response exercises be introduced in the missions and at Headquarters. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to submit a report on these efforts for its consideration during the 2012 regular session.

47. The Special Committee underlines the importance that it places on the safety and security of peacekeepers in the field. The Special Committee emphasizes the responsibility of both the United Nations and Member States for ensuring that medical personnel assigned to mission areas are qualified to provide immediate and proper medical attention to peacekeepers.

E. Conduct and discipline

48. The Special Committee reaffirms the need to ensure that all categories of personnel in United Nations peacekeeping operations function in such a manner as to preserve the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations, and notes with appreciation the efforts made in this regard. The Special Committee emphasizes that misconduct is unacceptable and that the reputation of peacekeeping missions in the eyes of the local population can have a direct bearing on these missions' operational effectiveness. While troop- and police-contributing countries bear the primary responsibility for maintaining discipline in order to uphold the highest standard of conduct among their contingents deployed in peacekeeping missions, the prevention of any acts of misconduct and the maintenance of discipline of United Nations peacekeeping personnel are a responsibility of managers and commanders at all levels of United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee emphasizes that the leadership of managers and commanders is vital in the prevention of misconduct.

49. The Special Committee re-emphasizes the principle that the same standards of conduct must be applied without exception to all categories of United Nations peacekeeping personnel. The Special Committee stresses that in the case of any violations of standards, appropriate action will be taken within the authority of the Secretary-General, while criminal and disciplinary responsibility in respect of members of national contingents will depend on the national law of the Member State. The Special Committee affirms that all peacekeeping personnel must be informed of and adhere to all applicable rules, regulations, provisions and guidelines provided by the United Nations for peacekeepers, as well as national laws and regulations. The Special Committee reaffirms that all acts of misconduct should be investigated and punished without delay in accordance both with due process of law and with memorandums of understanding that have been concluded between the United Nations and Member States. The Special Committee requests that continued efforts be undertaken to enforce the rules and regulations governing misconduct so as to preserve the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations and in this regard, looks forward to the annual report of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.

50. The Special Committee reiterates that troop-contributing countries bear the primary responsibility for maintaining discipline among their contingents deployed in peacekeeping missions.

51. The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the actions taken to prevent unsubstantiated allegations of misconduct from damaging the credibility of any United Nations peacekeeping mission or troop- or police-contributing country or United Nations peacekeeping personnel, and requests that the United Nations take appropriate measures in this regard. The Special Committee requests that the United Nations continue to ensure that prompt actions are taken to restore the image and credibility of any United Nations peacekeeping mission or troop- or police-contributing country or United Nations peacekeeping personnel when allegations of misconduct are ultimately proved legally to be unfounded.

52. The Special Committee reiterates that creating and maintaining an environment that prevents sexual exploitation and abuse should be part of the responsibility and performance objectives of managers and commanders involved in United Nations peacekeeping operations. In this regard, the Special Committee notes with appreciation that accountability compacts have been extended to Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and heads of mission. The Special Committee encourages managers and commanders to continue to facilitate the investigations within their existing responsibilities. The Special Committee encourages Member States and the Secretariat, including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, to address the issues of accountability within their respective purviews.

53. The Special Committee, bearing in mind the responsibility for investigating allegations of misconduct involving members of military contingents, as provided for by the revised model memorandum of understanding, welcomes the efforts of Member States to provide the Secretariat in a timely manner with the required information on disciplinary actions taken at the national level with respect to substantiated cases of misconduct. The Special Committee calls on Member States to make greater efforts in this regard in order to achieve better results.

54. The Special Committee takes note of the efforts being undertaken by the Secretariat to standardize a process for notifying Member States of serious allegations of misconduct involving uniformed personnel deployed as experts on mission. The Special Committee requests that the guidance for field missions be finalized expeditiously so as to ensure that this process of notification is implemented effectively and efficiently, and also requests that the Secretariat report on this matter at its next substantive session.

55. The Special Committee notes with appreciation the regularly updated website dedicated to conduct and discipline, including statistical information, which helps the Department of Field Support evaluate progress and assists Member States in gaining a better understanding of the policies of the United Nations in dealing with conduct and discipline issues.

56. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts of the Conduct and Discipline Unit at United Nations Headquarters and the conduct and discipline teams in the field.

57. The Special Committee continues to encourage further strengthening of cooperation and coordination among the Conduct and Discipline Unit at United

Nations Headquarters, its teams in the field, the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and other relevant entities, both at Headquarters and in the field.

58. The Special Committee takes note of the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen investigations through the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

59. The Special Committee reaffirms the importance of continued and strengthened efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations. Stressing the importance of eliminating all forms of misconduct, the Special Committee remains concerned about new cases of misconduct reported, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and about the number of outstanding allegations still awaiting investigation, and encourages continued efforts to address this backlog, in accordance, where applicable, with the new model memorandum of understanding. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to continue monitoring this effort and reiterates that all parties responsible for implementing the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse must be held accountable. The Special Committee, while noting the continuing decline in the number of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse, regrets that the proportion of the most egregious allegations has not decreased. The Special Committee looks forward to a more comprehensive analysis of the raw data in the forthcoming report this year on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and requests that the measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse be made available before the end of 2011.

60. The Special Committee recalls the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 62/214 containing the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the report of the Secretary-General (A/64/176) and the progress made so far, and calls for the continued implementation of the strategy. The Special Committee requests an update on progress in the implementation of the Comprehensive Strategy before its 2012 substantive session.

61. The Special Committee, taking note of the information provided in the addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee (A/65/680/Add.1), encourages the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force to strengthen its leadership role in the implementation of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel.

62. The Special Committee reaffirms the importance of welfare and recreation for the personnel serving in peacekeeping operations, including non-contingent personnel, bearing in mind that welfare and recreation also contribute to strengthening morale and discipline. The Special Committee reaffirms the important role of troop- and police-contributing countries in the welfare and recreation of contingent personnel and believes that the provision of facilities related to welfare and recreation should be adequately prioritized during the establishment of peacekeeping missions. In this regard, the Special Committee expresses its concern with deficiencies faced by the majority of missions in the area of welfare and recreation, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General on welfare and recreation needs of all categories of personnel and detailed implications (A/63/675 and Corr.1)

and looks forward to the consideration by the Fifth Committee of the report and its recommendations. The Special Committee notes that in paragraph 2 of section II of resolution 64/269, the General Assembly decided to revert to the issue of establishment of minimum welfare and recreation standards at the second part of its resumed sixty-fifth session. The Special Committee underlines, as a priority, the need for a decision to be taken on this important matter.

63. The Special Committee, recalling paragraph 63 of its previous report (A/64/19), takes note of the information provided in the addendum to the report of the Secretary-General (A/65/680/Add.1) regarding the outcome of the review completed in June 2010 under the auspices of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. The Special Committee encourages enhanced leadership of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force. The Special Committee requests an update on progress in implementation of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel before its 2012 substantive session.

F. Strengthening operational capacity

1. General

64. The Special Committee underscores the importance of ensuring that a sound and timely interaction and a better understanding are maintained among the Security Council, the Secretariat and the troop- and police-contributing countries in order for clear, unambiguous and achievable mandates to be devised and in order for the necessary political, human, financial and logistic resources and information capacity to be generated and mobilized so that the mandates can be achieved. In that regard, the Special Committee recalls the presidential statement of 5 August 2009 (S/PRST/2009/24) and welcomes the continued efforts of the Council Working Group to address the issue of cooperation with troop- and police-contributing countries and other stakeholders in the early phase of mandate drafting and throughout the entire life of the mission.

65. The Special Committee recognizes the necessity for effective political processes and the provision of adequate resources to enhance the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions. Noting certain concerns regarding the process aimed at intensifying the dialogue among Member States and the Secretariat, as reflected in paragraph 28 of the report of the Secretary-General (A/65/680), the Special Committee emphasizes the need for a comprehensive and inclusive discussion within the Committee on all aspects of the ways and means to enhance the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions, including by addressing the requirement for peacekeeping missions to be able to deter, through the posture they adopt and the actions they take, threats to the implementation of mandates, safety and security of peacekeeping personnel, and ongoing peace processes, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the guiding principles outlined in the present section of this report.

66. The Special Committee reiterates that there should be adequate capabilities and clear and appropriate operational guidelines for peacekeeping missions to ensure that they are able to effectively carry out all their mandated tasks. The Special Committee takes note with satisfaction of the Secretariat's ongoing work on the development of a comprehensive capability-driven approach with the aim of

improving overall performance in the field. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue its work in this regard, in close cooperation with troop- and police-contributing countries, and to report back to the Committee on the progress achieved.

67. The Special Committee takes note of the Secretariat's efforts in initiating the three-pronged pilot project for the design and testing of a methodology for capability standards development for infantry battalions, staff officers and military medical support, with the ultimate aim of enhancing the capability of peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue this work in close cooperation with Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries, and looks forward to the finalization and consideration of these baseline operation standards prior to the commencement of the next substantive session of this Committee.

68. The Special Committee is of the view that, whenever the mandate of a mission is changed or amended, the Secretariat should ensure, at the earliest opportunity, that the operational documents (including concept of operations and rules of engagement) conform with the changed mandate. The Special Committee reaffirms that the views of concerned troop- and police-contributing countries should be given due consideration during this process.

69. The Special Committee strongly recommends that the Security Council be fully advised on the availability of the operational and logistic capabilities which would be necessary for the success of a peacekeeping operation, prior to its making a decision on a new or major change to an existing mandate.

70. The Special Committee welcomes the progress made on the development of Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres, and recognizes their critical role in enhancing the safety and security of personnel, as well as missions' operational effectiveness, through situational awareness, integrated operational reporting, support to crisis management and analysis of threats to mission mandates, United Nations personnel and assets. The Special Committee notes that some field missions continue to experience challenges to the effective operation of Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres. In this regard, the Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat complete the recruitment of appropriately qualified personnel for established Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres posts as a matter of priority, while being mindful of the need for continuity of personnel in these posts. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue working on developing and delivering training to the personnel of Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres. The Special Committee stresses that all mission components should ensure that information is shared with Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres in a timely fashion, in order to enable those bodies to effectively carry out their functions. Similarly, Joint Operations Centres and Joint Mission Analysis Centres should ensure that their product is provided to mission senior leadership in a timely manner.

2. Military capacities

71. The Special Committee acknowledges the update provided by the Military Adviser of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations on the evaluation of the

functioning of the Office of Military Affairs and takes note of the assertion that the Office requires no further strengthening of personnel at this time.

72. The Special Committee notes with ongoing concern the negative impact that the absence of critical assets, including military utility helicopters, is having on the mobility of personnel and, as a result, on the ability of the missions to successfully carry out their mandates.

73. The Special Committee takes note of the Secretary-General's report on administrative and safety arrangements relating to the management of military utility helicopters in peacekeeping operations (A/64/768). Taking into account the relevant observations of this report, the Special Committee notes with interest the ongoing study being conducted, without prejudice to its findings, in line with paragraph 73 of the report of the Special Committee (A/64/19) and paragraph 43 of the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of recommendations of the Special Committee of Peacekeeping Operations (A/65/680), of a multitrack approach to developing a coordinated and sustainable framework for changing the way in which helicopters are generated, contracted, reimbursed and operated. The Special Committee requests that this review process be conducted in close consultation with Member States, particularly the troop-contributing countries. It further requests that this review be completed by 31 July 2011 and that its findings be presented to the Special Committee as soon as possible thereafter.

74. The Special Committee continues to emphasize the need to enlarge the base of troop-contributing countries to encompass new contributors and the return of former contributors. The Special Committee recommends that, in order to overcome shortfalls in the contingent-owned equipment including sustainability faced by some troop- and police-contributing countries, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support continue to facilitate various enabling arrangements, including through other Member States and multilateral and bilateral arrangements. The Special Committee calls upon the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to build on the success of existing bilateral and multilateral initiatives as a means of encouraging Member States to develop mutually beneficial cooperation agreements on enlarging the base of troop-contributing countries.

75. The Special Committee notes the gap lists produced by the Secretariat aimed at identifying and communicating critical requirements in the missions and looks forward to having the results of the impact assessment of the production of such lists before the end of 2011. The assessment should also include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the United Nations Standby Arrangements System in helping to fill capacity gaps. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to play a significant role in improving coordination among capacity-building efforts of various regional, multilateral and bilateral actors directed towards establishing long-term and stronger relationships with current or potential troop-contributing countries, including through developing outreach strategies.

76. The Special Committee notes with concern the gap between peacekeeping mandates and the enabling assets available to missions and recognizes that existing shortages must be overcome in order for increasingly complex mandated tasks to be properly carried out. In this regard, the Special Committee notes that capability gaps constitute a critical issue which can be dealt with on multiple fronts and in a coherent manner. The Special Committee also notes that the Committee itself, along

with other entities and mechanisms (such as the Fifth Committee, the Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment, the working group on helicopters, and bilateral and triangular cooperation), all have roles to play in this effort, and that progress in one of these areas cannot substitute progress in the others. In this context, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to ensure cohesion in the capability-driven approach and to support the different initiatives in place to address this issue.

77. The Special Committee takes note of the fact that the 2011 Working Group on Contingent-Owned Equipment agreed to its recommendations by consensus. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of effective and transparent inspections of contingent-owned equipment. It notes, however, that agreement was not reached on all capability issues facing peacekeeping.

3. United Nations police capacities

78. The Special Committee notes with appreciation the review of the Police Division carried out since its 2008 report (A/62/19). The Committee acknowledges the remaining gaps in the capacities of the Police Division and stresses the importance of addressing them in a timely manner, in order to ensure efficiency and transparency in the work of the Police Division. The Special Committee notes the considerable delay in the ongoing recruitment process aimed at filling previously identified critical gaps in the Police Division and emphasizes the need to complete it as soon as possible. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive report on the functioning of the Police Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the challenges faced by the police components in the United Nations peacekeeping missions and to present that report to the Committee before the end of 2011.

79. The Special Committee recognizes the need to recruit qualified personnel for police components of United Nations peacekeeping operations, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, and encourages the Secretariat to improve procedures and guidance, in close cooperation with contributing countries, for timely, effective and transparent evaluation and recruitment of candidates. The Special Committee is of the view that the police should be matched with positions that make the best use of their specific areas of expertise.

80. The Special Committee takes note of the steps taken since its last session to expand the Standing Police Capacity in order to respond quickly to the needs of missions in the field.

81. The Special Committee takes note of the approval of the revised policy on formed police units in United Nations peacekeeping operations and encourages the Secretariat to implement that policy in order to ensure efficient and effective use of formed police units in the conduct of their mandated tasks. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on the implementation of the policy in all relevant fields.

82. The Special Committee recognizes the growing need to build institutional police capacity in post-conflict environments and notes the ongoing work undertaken by Member States, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the Secretariat. In this regard, the Committee emphasizes that the process should be carried out in consultation with and driven by Member States.

83. Informal briefings given during the 2011 session of the Special Committee mentioned that the Police Division was contemplating the development of a strategic doctrinal framework, as recommended by the Office of Internal Oversight Services in its report AP2007/600/01. The Special Committee requests a formal briefing before the commencement of this work.

84. The Special Committee welcomes the recent increase in the deployment of female police officers (individual and Formed Police Units), which improves the missions' ability to respond, inter alia, to sexual and gender-based crimes. The Special Committee also takes note of the Police Division's initiative to develop a United Nations Police standardized training curriculum on investigating and preventing sexual and gender-based crimes and looks forward to putting the curriculum into practice.

85. The Special Committee notes the cooperation among United Nations field missions, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and INTERPOL in supporting host nations in building capabilities to address transnational organized crime.

86. The Special Committee requests that a briefing be provided to it on the peacekeeping-related aspects of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (A/65/116).

4. Doctrine and terminology

87. The Special Committee recognizes that peacekeeping operations have become more complex and that, this being the case, a common understanding of terminology is required in order to promote common approaches and cooperation. The Special Committee believes that further work on documents related to United Nations peacekeeping should take due account of the views of Member States and be the subject of thorough and comprehensive consideration in the Special Committee.

88. The Special Committee recognizes the vital role played by military and police personnel in United Nations peacekeeping operations and that currently approximately 85 per cent of uniformed personnel deployed in United Nations peacekeeping operations are military personnel contributed by troop-contributing countries, with the remainder, police personnel, being contributed by police-contributing countries. The Special Committee further acknowledges that the roles of troops and police, as well as the needs of troop- and police-contributing countries, can be distinct. Accordingly, in its report, the Special Committee uses the terms "troop-contributing countries" and "police-contributing countries" separately or together, depending on the context.

G. Strategies for complex peacekeeping operations

1. General

89. The Special Committee recalls the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/ Department of Field Support non-paper entitled "A new partnership agenda: charting the new horizon for United Nations peacekeeping" and in this context takes note of the first progress report of October 2010. The Special Committee encourages

the Secretariat to further engage with Member States, particularly troop- and police-contributing countries, on matters relating to peacekeeping operations.

90. The Special Committee stresses that sustainable progress on security, progress on national reconciliation and progress on development need to occur in parallel, given the interconnected nature of those challenges in countries emerging from conflict.

91. The Special Committee, recalling the presidential statement of 11 February 2011 (S/PRST/2011/4), notes that successful implementation of the many tasks that peacekeeping operations could be mandated to undertake in the areas of security sector reform; disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration; rule of law; and human rights, requires an understanding of, and action based on a perspective that takes into account, the close interlinkage between security and development.

92. The Special Committee stresses that peacekeeping operations need to be complemented with activities aimed at effectively improving the living conditions of the affected populations, including quick implementation of highly effective and visible projects that help to create jobs and deliver basic social services in the post-conflict phase. Such activities need to be carried out in full acknowledgement of the primary responsibility of the Governments of the host countries to provide for their citizens, and must take care not to undermine efforts aimed at building the capacity of host Governments to fulfil this role.

93. The Special Committee stresses that the United Nations system and the international community, in particular donor countries, in cooperation with national authorities, should develop and engage in appropriate coordination mechanisms that focus on immediate needs as well as long-term reconstruction and poverty reduction. The Special Committee recognizes that better coordination with United Nations country teams and the various development actors is of paramount importance in ensuring greater efficiency in development efforts and addressing urgent development problems.

94. The Special Committee underlines that reconstruction, economic revitalization and capacity-building constitute crucial elements for the long-term development of post-conflict societies and for generating a sustainable peace.

95. The Special Committee reiterates that there is no one-size-fits-all model for multidimensional peacekeeping operations and that each mission should take into account the needs of the country concerned. Such needs should be ascertained at the earliest possible stages of mission planning.

96. The Special Committee recognizes the important role of civil affairs officers in United Nations peacekeeping operations, including through cross-mission representation monitoring and facilitation at the local level, support to confidence-building, conflict management and reconciliation and support to restoration and extension of State authority. The Special Committee notes that successful implementation of many peacekeeping mandates requires consistent engagement with the local government and population and stresses that the inclusion of local staff in civil affairs components has been important. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue ongoing efforts to support the work of civil affairs officers, and requests that it continue to be informed of progress in this area.

97. The Special Committee stresses the need to strengthen the coordination among the mission, the United Nations country team and other United Nations bodies, including in addressing unexpected emergencies such as natural and man-made disasters.

98. The Special Committee encourages Member States, particularly those represented on the governance structures of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, to promote coherence where United Nations peacekeeping operations are deployed alongside United Nations country teams.

99. The Special Committee welcomes the important work carried out by peacekeeping missions in support of urgent needs of the countries where they operate and encourages the missions, within their mandates, to make full use of all existing means and capabilities.

2. Peacebuilding issues and the Peacebuilding Commission

100. The Special Committee reaffirms the need for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to plan and conduct United Nations peacekeeping activities in such a manner as to facilitate post-conflict peacebuilding, the prevention of the recurrence of armed conflicts, and progress towards sustainable peace and development. The Special Committee underlines the importance of effective coordination among the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Peacebuilding Support Office, the Department of Political Affairs, United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, and non-United Nations partners in the planning and implementation of peacebuilding efforts, building on their respective strengths, particularly at the early stage of United Nations engagement in post-conflict situations. To help achieve this, the Special Committee emphasizes the need for a coordinated strategic assessment and planning process for peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities in order to ensure an integrated and coherent approach to post-conflict peacebuilding and sustainable peace.

101. The Special Committee notes the important role that peacekeeping missions play in peacebuilding, both in supporting critical tasks and in enabling others, through supporting countries in developing critical peacebuilding priorities and strategies, by helping to create an enabling environment in which national and international actors can undertake these efforts, and by implementing certain early peacebuilding tasks themselves, in order to help countries establish the foundations of peace, reduce the risk of relapse into conflict and establish conditions for recovery and development. The Special Committee stresses the importance of the explicit definition and clear identification of peacebuilding activities in the mandates of peacekeeping operations, whenever appropriate, and of their helping to lay the foundations for longer-term peacebuilding and sustainable peace and development. The Special Committee recognizes the need to support national Governments in their peacebuilding efforts in immediate post-conflict environments. In this regard, the Special Committee looks forward to the finalization of a strategy for critical early peacebuilding tasks undertaken by peacekeeping missions, which is being developed by the Secretariat. The Special Committee calls for Member States and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to be consulted throughout the process, and underlines the need for specific peacebuilding tasks undertaken by peacekeeping missions to be based on the priorities of the country concerned and on the specific context.

102. The Special Committee notes the statements by the President of the Security Council of 29 December 1998 (S/PRST/1998/38) and 20 February 2001 (S/PRST/2001/5) with regard to the inclusion, as appropriate, of peacebuilding elements in the mandates of peacekeeping operations, with a view to ensuring a smooth transition to a successful post-conflict phase and preventing the recurrence or continuation of armed conflict. The Special Committee also notes the statement by the President of the Council on 22 July 2009 (S/PRST/2009/23) with regard to the importance of early consideration of peacebuilding activities in the Council's own deliberations and ensuring coherence among peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and development so as to ensure achievement of an early and effective response to post-conflict situations. The Special Committee also notes the statement made by the President of the Council on 21 January 2011 (S/PRST/2011/2) with regard to the Council's commitment to continuing to improve its consideration of and reflection on early peacebuilding tasks related to institution-building. The Special Committee emphasizes the role of the General Assembly in the formulation of post-conflict peacebuilding activities. The Special Committee also underlines the urgency of ensuring that development perspectives are integrated in peacebuilding efforts in countries emerging from conflict.

103. The Special Committee underlines the critical importance of effective integration between the United Nations peacekeeping operation and the United Nations country team, so that clarity exists on the respective roles and responsibilities of each for the delivery of critical peacebuilding needs, building on their respective strength and capacities. In addition, the Special Committee emphasizes the need for progress in clarifying roles and responsibilities at Headquarters, in order to ensure a more predictable and accountable response.

104. The Special Committee reaffirms that national ownership is the fundamental principle with which international engagement should be aligned. In this regard, the Special Committee underlines the need to formulate peacebuilding strategies and programmes that build upon host-country strategies and stresses the important role that the United Nations can play in helping national authorities to develop coherent national peacebuilding objectives and strategies as well as in helping to mobilize international support for them.

105. The Special Committee underlines the importance of the Integrated Mission Planning Process and the Integrated Strategic Framework as mechanisms designed to help coordinate and prioritize the activities undertaken by the United Nations, and the need for all actors engaged in peacekeeping and related peacebuilding efforts to coordinate closely, in particular with host countries.

106. The Special Committee reiterates that support provided to countries emerging from conflict requires a focus on ensuring that their Governments have the capacities that they require. The Special Committee takes note of the completion of the report commissioned by the Secretary-General on civilian capacities and looks forward to taking up the report in the year ahead. The Special Committee emphasizes that the review should assist in broadening and deepening the pool of experts, giving particular attention to mobilizing capacities from developing countries and among women.

107. The Special Committee recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, drawing on the work of relevant United Nations bodies and entities such as the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Support Office, and United

Nations agencies, funds and programmes and their growing link with regional and subregional organizations and international financial institutions, explore partnership opportunities that support peacekeeping operations' mandated peacebuilding tasks.

108. The Special Committee underlines the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in developing, in consultation with national Governments, integrated peacebuilding strategies and marshalling resources for their implementation, as well as its efforts to ensure fulfilment of mutual commitments on the part of relevant stakeholders, enhance the coordination of relevant actors on the ground and promote dialogue on cross-cutting peacebuilding issues and lessons learned from past experience. The Special Committee takes note of the role that the Peacebuilding Support Office should play in promoting greater coherence and synergies between the different parts of the United Nations system and other relevant actors outside the United Nations system. The Special Committee recommends that the Peacebuilding Commission, with the support of the Peacebuilding Support Office, further explore opportunities for partnerships in post-conflict situations with international financial institutions, as well as regional arrangements.

109. The Special Committee underlines the importance of close collaboration between the Peacebuilding Commission and peacekeeping operations in helping to support the delivery of their respective mandates and helping to contribute to a smooth transition from a United Nations peacekeeping operation, and in this regard, welcomes the increased interaction between the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission and takes note of the referral for consideration under the Peacebuilding Commission agenda of a matter concerning a country in which there is a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

110. While noting that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations is the leader in respect of all operational matters relating to the planning and conduct of integrated peacekeeping operations, the Special Committee stresses the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in providing timely advice, when requested, on mandated peacebuilding activities undertaken by United Nations peacekeeping operations, in particular within the context of ensuring that those activities are sustainable and in conformity with longer-term peacebuilding strategies and engagement. The Special Committee welcomes the report entitled "Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture" (A/64/868-S/2010/393, annex) presented by the co-facilitators of the review process, and stresses the importance that all relevant United Nations actors take forward, within their mandates and as appropriate, the recommendations of the report, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/7 and the Security Council in its resolution 1947 (2010).

111. The Special Committee takes note of the presidential statement of 12 February 2010 (S/PRST/2010/2) and notes the efforts of the Security Council to improve its practices in order to ensure a successful transition from a peacekeeping operation to other configurations of the United Nations presence. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of generating lessons learned on the transition from peacekeeping operations and ensuring that those lessons are taken into account in future transitions. In this regard, the Special Committee reiterates the importance of generating lessons learned and requests the Secretariat to report on how these lessons have been taken on board in order to ensure a smooth transition from a peacekeeping operation to other configurations of the United Nations presence.

112. The Special Committee encourages efforts by the Secretariat to enhance, to the extent possible, the socio-economic impact of peacekeeping missions and their contributions to local economies and to minimize the negative impact thereof. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on these efforts at the next session.

113. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide an update at its next session on the steps being taken to make the peacebuilding roles of peacekeeping missions more effective, including on how this role may support critical socio-economic needs. The Special Committee suggests that representatives of other actors involved in peacebuilding, including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, be invited to participate at this briefing.

114. The Special Committee acknowledges the interlinkages that need to be forged between the various peacebuilding sectors, entailing sustained and coordinated responses. In this respect, the Special Committee takes note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict (A/64/866-S/2010/386) and emphasizes the need for further progress in implementing the recommendations contained therein in order to demonstrate improved delivery on the ground.

115. The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the Secretary-General's report on women's participation in peacebuilding (A/65/354-S/2010/466). The Special Committee encourages measures to ensure women's participation and the provision of gender expertise in peace processes, post-conflict planning and peacebuilding, and in post-conflict public institutions, and to ensure women's equal involvement in programmes created to support economic recovery.

3. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

116. The Special Committee stresses that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programmes are crucial components of peacekeeping operations and longer-term peacebuilding and that their success depends upon the political will and concerted effort of all parties. It is therefore crucial that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration be firmly established within a political process and that all actors be prepared for involvement in a multi-year programme to ensure a smooth transition from disarmament and demobilization to reintegration. The Special Committee recognizes that the process of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration is an evolving field and that DDR programmes should be tailored to national contexts so as to ensure consistency with national strategies, while being mindful of the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and their dependants, as well as children affected by armed conflict and the disabled. In this regard, the Special Committee emphasizes the need to ensure full implementation of the Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards (IDDRS) gender guidelines.

117. The Special Committee underlines the importance of building synergies between security sector reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration from the outset during the planning and implementation of peacekeeping operations.

118. The Special Committee underlines the importance of ensuring that disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes are designed in accordance with national priorities and the specific context of each country. In this

regard, the Special Committee commends the efforts to find innovative approaches to addressing the new and emerging challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, in order to support the national implementation of peace processes, build trust, contribute to the creation of a secure environment and help build the foundation for durable peace and development, as described in the study on Second-Generation DDR produced by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to develop and apply such approaches in relevant contexts and looks forward to the development of guidance for the field on fostering the effective implementation of Second-Generation DDR practices.

119. The Special Committee welcomes the release of the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (A/65/741) and appreciates the fact that the civilian reintegration of ex-combatants continues to pose particular challenges, requiring concerted efforts to help rapidly jump-start the economy in order to create employment opportunities for ex-combatants and the wider community. In this regard, the Special Committee takes note of the need for increased linkages between the reintegration of ex-combatants with that of other returnees, as well as with larger national employment and income-generation programmes, private sector development initiatives and poverty reduction strategies. The Special Committee would welcome the advice of the Peacebuilding Commission when taking up this report.

120. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of the Integrated Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Standards (IDDRS) in supporting the planning and implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes supported by the United Nations. In this regard, the Special Committee notes the publication of IDDRS guidance on the linkages among disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, and security sector reform and transitional justice, which was presented to the Special Committee in its last session. The Special Committee also notes the importance of continuing work in the areas of reintegration of ex-combatants and the connection between disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and peace processes, and requests the Secretariat to keep the Committee informed on these developments.

121. The Special Committee notes the need for greater use of existing mechanisms, such as temporary assignments, between the Secretariat and agencies, funds and programmes involved in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, so as to increase the availability of relevant staff at critical early stages, and ensure their timely arrival on the ground to support the design and implementation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes.

4. Security sector reform

122. The Special Committee emphasizes that security sector reform is an important aspect of multidimensional peacekeeping operations. The establishment of an effective, professional and accountable security sector is one of the critical elements for laying the foundations for durable peace and development, including economic recovery, and for the sustainable transition from a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

123. The Special Committee notes that the General Assembly has a relevant role to play in the development of an overarching United Nations approach to security

sector reform. The Special Committee, in particular, is able to make a significant contribution in the area of security sector reform in United Nations peacekeeping.

124. The Special Committee stresses that security sector reform must take place within a broad framework of the rule of law and should contribute to the overall strengthening of United Nations rule-of-law activities in peacekeeping operations, taking into account the fact that United Nations activities and structures should not be duplicative. The Special Committee underlines the importance of integrated planning and implementation to ensure consistency and coherence in the United Nations and encourages such coordination to continue both at Headquarters and in the field, notably through field mechanisms for the implementation of security sector reform. In this regard, the Special Committee stresses the importance of ensuring effective integration as regards sector-wide and component levels of United Nations support both in the field and at Headquarters. The Special Committee takes note of the African Union-United Nations partnership on security sector reform and the emerging consultations with other regional organizations.

125. The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the efforts of the Security Sector Reform (SSR) Unit since its establishment in 2009, and the work being done through its leadership of the Secretary-General's Inter-agency SSR Task Force and engagement with the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group. The Special Committee takes note of the increasing demands placed on the SSR Unit in respect of supporting United Nations missions in the field and, in this regard, encourages the United Nations Secretariat, funds, agencies and programmes to explore ways to enhance the capacity of the SSR Unit. The Special Committee requests the SSR Unit to provide a briefing on its activities, in particular the support provided to United Nations missions in the field.

126. The Special Committee underlines the fact that security sector reform is a nationally owned process and that the engagement of the United Nations in providing assistance for security sector reform through peacekeeping missions should be undertaken at the request of the host country, and that such assistance should be rooted in its particular needs and conditions. It is the sovereign right and primary responsibility of the country concerned to determine the national approach and priorities for security sector reform. The Special Committee recognizes the important role that the United Nations, in close cooperation with bilateral and regional arrangements, can play in the provision of technical assistance to State authorities, where requested and based on the specific needs, in their efforts to take forward efforts in areas including national security sector strategies; security sector legislation; security sector reviews; national security sector development plans; national dialogue on security sector reform; and national management and oversight capacities, as well as to national coordination bodies for security sector reform, taking into consideration other areas, as requested by the host country. In this regard, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to elaborate guidance on all aspects of security sector reform, in consultation with Member States, and stresses the importance of the development of such guidance on the basis of lessons learned and best practices. The Special Committee requests the SSR Unit to continue to provide briefings on the development of such guidance, as well as on its activities, during its 2012 session, in particular the support provided to missions in the field.

127. The Special Committee recognizes the positive role that peacekeeping operations can play in promoting gender-sensitive security sector reform and the development of security services that better respond to women's needs, such as through, for example, the deployment of female peacekeeping personnel which can be a means of encouraging more women to serve in the reformed security sector of the host Government, through the provision of gender expertise in support of security sector reform processes, and through the incorporation of gender perspectives in security sector reform programmes.

128. The Special Committee stresses that the sustainability of security sector reform depends on national ownership and the sustained support of the international community, in particular bilateral donors. The United Nations and the international community should avoid imposing external models of security sector reform and concentrate on strengthening the capacity of the host country to develop, manage and implement security sector reform through inclusive and broad national consultation processes at all stages, including with civil society. The Special Committee believes that the United Nations approach to security sector reform must be flexible, adaptable and tailored to the country concerned.

129. The Special Committee reaffirms its support for the development of a United Nations roster of senior security sector reform experts. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the support provided through the roster in its first year of operation to Member States and peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee underlines the need for greater efforts by the SSR Unit to ensure that the roster adequately reflects capacities in developing countries, particularly from those regions not currently represented. The Special Committee requests that the SSR Unit provide an analysis of the roster's performance in its 2012 session.

130. The Special Committee underlines the importance of security sector reform training and capacity-building, where mandated, and welcomes efforts in this regard by the SSR Unit and numerous Member States and through international organizations.

5. Rule of law

131. The Special Committee emphasizes the critical importance of strengthening the rule of law in countries emerging from conflict in order to help stabilize the situation, end impunity, tackle the underlying causes of conflict and build lasting peace. The Special Committee acknowledges that success in the restoration of and respect for the rule of law depends upon the political will and concerted effort of all parties.

132. The Special Committee underlines the important role that peacekeeping operations can play in helping to support the initial strengthening of a country's rule-of-law institutions. The Special Committee notes the role that peacekeeping operations can also play in helping national authorities develop critical rule-of-law priorities and strategies and supporting the coordination of national and international action in addressing them.

133. The Special Committee calls on the Secretariat and peacekeeping operations to ensure the implementation of the commitments, contained in the Secretary-General's report on women's participation in peacebuilding (A/65/354-S/2010/466), to a United Nations approach to a rule of law that promotes women's rights to security

and justice and, in particular, to the provision of immediate support for women's and girls' access to justice and law enforcement institutions.

134. The Special Committee underlines the importance of the provision by peacekeeping operations and other partners of balanced attention and support to the different rule-of-law components, in particular access to justice, so that they do not undermine a State's ability to provide critical rule-of-law functions. The Special Committee emphasizes the need for an integrated approach to rule of law that addresses the needs of police, judicial institutions, correction systems and other rule-of-law components, and the critical linkages among them.

135. The Special Committee recognizes that creating and sustaining stability in a post-conflict environment require that the causes of the conflict be addressed and that national and local rule-of-law capacities be assessed, restored and enhanced, as appropriate, from the very beginning of a United Nations peacekeeping operation. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls the importance of respect for the rule of law as a vital contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity.

136. The Special Committee reiterates the need for greater clarity and specificity in United Nations peacekeeping mandates on rule-of-law issues and requests that, where mandated, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations continue to ensure that the rule of law and transitional justice are integrated into the strategic and operational planning of peacekeeping operations. Such a mandate should be fully implemented to strengthen and ensure national ownership, while recognizing that responsibility for the restoration of and respect for the rule of law lies with Governments and relevant national actors, including civil society.

137. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of the provision of holistic and integrated rule-of-law assistance to host countries from the very outset of the establishment of new peacekeeping missions, and in this regard, urges the Secretariat to implement measures to ensure that United Nations staff are made available to fully implement mandates related to the rule of law throughout the life of the mission, taking into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 65/247, 63/250 and 61/279.

138. The Special Committee recognizes the growing demand for police, rule-of-law, security sector reform, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration functions within peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee calls on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to consider ways to provide adequate rule-of-law capacities, including in the field, through, inter alia, use of rosters of civilian experts at the request of the host country and in close coordination with existing host countries' capabilities, with a view to building national capacities. The Special Committee welcomes the establishment of the rapidly deployable rule-of-law team of experts on sexual violence as an innovative model designed to help support the needs of host countries, at their request, and underlines the need for this to adequately reflect the capacities in developing countries.

139. The Special Committee notes the importance of the ongoing development of guidance material for operational rule-of-law issues, and requests the Secretariat to brief Member States whenever development of such material is initiated and to provide regular information on progress.

140. The Special Committee recognizes the Department of Peacekeeping Operations as a lead entity, where mandated, in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee reiterates the need to ensure cooperation and coordination among all relevant United Nations actors, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, in order to ensure a holistic and coherent United Nations approach to the rule of law, and to ensure effective integration in the planning and delivery of rule-of-law assistance. In this regard, the Special Committee emphasizes the need for progress in the review of the arrangements that already exist within the United Nations to deliver a more predictable response on rule-of-law assistance.

141. The Special Committee encourages the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to enhance the capacity of its judicial affairs and corrections personnel so as to maximize the impact of their efforts in support of national rule-of-law institutions. In this regard, the Special Committee welcomes the ongoing development and delivery of the Rule of Law Training for Judicial Affairs Officers, the predeployment training course for seconded corrections officers, and other specialized training courses for judicial affairs and corrections officers deployed to peacekeeping operations.

142. The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the activities undertaken by the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions, and reiterates its request for a written analysis of how the Office's work contributes to closer coherence and synergies among its own sections and between other United Nations actors for more effective delivery on rule-of-law mandates.

143. The Special Committee welcomes the creation of the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity and its co-location with the Standing Police Capacity, and requests an update on progress made in the establishment and initial operations of the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity and the extent to which it is able to meet demand for capacity in the rule-of-law sector.

144. The Special Committee notes the important steps that have been taken to increase the attention to and resources available for corrections work in peacekeeping operations, where mandated, in close cooperation with the authorities of the host country. Specifically, the Committee recognizes the importance of further expanding the number of countries that contribute corrections officers so as to enable the Secretariat to respond to emerging situations on the ground.

145. The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the development of the United Nations Rule of Law Indicators instrument and the completion of pilot phases. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to implement them in peacekeeping operations as planned. The Special Committee requests periodic updates on the use of the indicators and an assessment of how they have supported national justice strategies to strengthen the rule of law and assisted rule-of-law planning and assistance in peacekeeping contexts.

146. The Special Committee welcomes the guidelines for reviewing the justice and corrections components of peacekeeping operations adopted by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in 2009, which have been used for review visits to the field. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on the findings of the regular reviews undertaken.

147. The Special Committee takes note of the need to provide support to correction services in a timely and effective manner, and of the challenges faced in supporting prisons in post-conflict countries. The Special Committee takes note of the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in developing a concept to support national authorities in establishing temporary prison facilities in the immediate aftermath of conflict or in response to natural disasters, when required, and requests the Secretariat to provide information on the elaboration of the concept prior to its next session. The Special Committee calls for Member States to be consulted throughout the development of this concept.

6. Gender and peacekeeping

148. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of ensuring full and effective implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010), and presidential statements, including S/PRST/2010/22, on women and peace and security, and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly resolution 65/187, and its previous resolutions on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women. The Special Committee welcomes the action taken for and the global impact of the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of Council resolution 1325 (2000), which laid the foundation for its enhanced implementation. The Special Committee encourages the ongoing use by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Secretariat of the set of indicators contained in the Secretary-General's report on women and peace and security (S/2010/498), in accordance with presidential statement S/PRST/2010/22. The Special Committee calls on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to develop a forward-looking strategy, taking into consideration the Secretary-General's report on women and peace and security (S/2010/498), the Secretary-General's report on women's participation in peacebuilding (A/65/354-S/2010/466) and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations "Ten-year impact study on implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security in peacekeeping". The Special Committee appreciates the "Open Days" organized by several field missions and further calls on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to establish, as a regular practice, the convening of Open Days in field operations.

149. The Special Committee welcomes the completion and dissemination of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Field Support Guidelines for Integrating a Gender Perspective into the Work of the United Nations Military in Peacekeeping Operations, with a view to facilitating the implementation of the aforementioned resolutions, as well as the implementation strategy prepared by the Office of Military Affairs, and looks forward to receiving information from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and in particular the Office of Military Affairs, with respect to the implementation of and level of compliance with the Guidelines, and their impact on the work of the military component in the various peacekeeping missions.

150. The Special Committee acknowledges the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stresses the importance of their full, effective and equal participation in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, including at the decision-making level. The Special Committee takes note of the increase in the overall proportion of women, as

reported by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support and welcomes the United Nations Police Division's Global Effort and its intention to raise the participation of female police officers to 20 per cent before 2014. The Special Committee does, however, continue to express its concern at the low proportion of women among United Nations peacekeeping staff at Headquarters and in the field. In this regard, the Special Committee continues to urge Member States and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to take all measures to increase the participation of women in all aspects and at all levels of peacekeeping operations so as to promote gender equality and empowerment of women in peacekeeping operations. In particular, the Special Committee calls upon Member States to continue to nominate more women, including for the highest positions.

151. The Special Committee welcomes the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and its function, which is to lead and coordinate United Nations system strategies, policies and actions on gender equality. The Special Committee welcomes the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and encourages the work of UN-Women in the area of women and peace and security, which has been identified as one of the thematic priority areas. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to work in a cooperative and coordinated manner with UN-Women and all other relevant United Nations actors in order to ensure the full implementation of its mandate relating to the promotion of gender perspectives in peacekeeping operations, as well as Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and all subsequent resolutions relating to women, peace and security, so as to optimize the effectiveness and impact of United Nations work in the area of women and peace and security.

152. The Special Committee takes note with appreciation of the gender training strategy developed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and requests its expeditious implementation. The Special Committee emphasizes that it is a responsibility of the senior mission leadership to ensure gender mainstreaming in peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee calls for the enhanced implementation and promotion of gender perspectives by all categories of personnel in multidimensional peacekeeping activities, including through the work of a gender trainer at Headquarters, the deployment of gender advisers in the field, and further development of gender-specific training tools. The Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to furnish information to the Committee on the implementation of the training strategy and its impact in the field.

153. Furthermore, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to include experts on gender in technical assessment missions in order to ensure that a gender perspective is taken into account.

154. The Special Committee continues to underline the gravity of all acts of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and stresses the importance of addressing, in a comprehensive manner, the needs of all victims of such acts. The Special Committee reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to continue the systematic inclusion in the Secretary-General's written reports on situations of which the Security Council is seized, observations and recommendations with regard to the issue of sexual violence and the protection of

women and girls. In this regard, the Special Committee looks forward to the establishment of the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence and calls on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to support the operationalization of these arrangements, including through close cooperation with all relevant United Nations actors, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict. The Special Committee requests a briefing by the Secretariat by the end of 2011 on the Women's Protection Advisers as mandated by Security Council resolution 1888 (2009), including their terms of reference and progress in, and possible challenges to, their deployment and work.

155. The Special Committee appreciates the analytical inventory of peacekeeping practice and the ongoing development of scenario-based training modules on conflict-related sexual violence, encourages the continuation of this work in cooperation with all relevant United Nations actors, and urges troop- and police-contributing countries to make full use of the training materials, once finalized. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to update training programmes for military, police and civilian peacekeeping personnel to ensure that they include operational guidance on protecting women and girls from sexual violence. The Special Committee also urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to finalize and ensure the effective use of the operational guidance on the prevention of, protection from and response to sexual violence in conflict.

156. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of the mandate and appreciates the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, tasked with providing leadership and coordination on addressing conflict-related sexual violence. In this regard, the Special Committee continues to stress the need for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and peacekeeping missions to coordinate closely with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant United Nations actors including UN-Women, in support of their mandates, including identification and implementation of best practices for peacekeeping personnel with regard to protecting women and girls from sexual violence and the implementation of the specific recommendations of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. The Special Committee invites the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to brief the Committee on her work prior to its next substantive session and, as appropriate, at mission-specific meetings organized by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with troop- and police-contributing countries.

7. Children and peacekeeping

157. The Special Committee recognizes the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat on the issue of children and peacekeeping and reaffirms General Assembly resolution 65/197 and all previous resolutions on the rights of the child and Security Council resolutions 1539 (2004), 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009). The Special Committee recognizes the important role being played by child protection advisers in peacekeeping missions where they are deployed; recommends the inclusion, where appropriate, of specific child protection provisions in peacekeeping mandates; and

encourages the deployment of child protection advisers in all relevant peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee stresses the need for continued collaboration among the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, particularly the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to ensure effective child protection.

158. The Special Committee welcomes the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in mainstreaming child protection into peacekeeping missions through the implementation of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations Policy Directive on Mainstreaming the Protection, Rights and Well-being of Children Affected by Armed Conflict and through priority interventions based on best practices and lessons learned in child protection. In order to ensure more coherent and systematic implementation, the Special Committee looks forward to the early finalization of the policy implementation plan for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations Policy Directive on Mainstreaming the Protection, Rights and Well-being of Children Affected by Armed Conflict, including training programmes and materials, which will be critical to ensuring that there is an effective and comprehensive response, including preventive measures, with respect to child protection. The Special Committee affirms the importance of continuing to ensure that all peacekeeping personnel receive adequate training on child protection and child rights in order to strengthen the protection of children in conflict and post-conflict situations. The Special Committee welcomes the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in developing standardized training modules on child protection for all categories of peacekeeping personnel and encourages the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to further develop the training standards and materials. The Special Committee requests a briefing during the coming year on the policy implementation plan of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

159. The Special Committee reiterates the need to ensure coordination and cooperation among the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, including through the designated focal point within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in order to further the commitment and actions of peacekeeping in the area of child protection.

160. The Special Committee appreciates the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and continues to underscore the important role of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions, within their respective mandates, in supporting the implementation of the monitoring and reporting mechanisms on children and armed conflict as foreseen in Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009), in close consultation with the countries concerned. The Special Committee recognizes the important role of relevant United Nations bodies and civil society actors in this regard. The Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and field missions to continue to provide all necessary support to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and closely collaborate with them on the monitoring and reporting mechanisms as key components of overall child protection efforts. The Special Committee invites the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to

brief the Special Committee prior to its next substantive session and, as appropriate, at mission-specific meetings organized by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with troop- and police-contributing countries.

8. HIV and other health-related issues and peacekeeping

161. The Special Committee notes with concern that health-related issues, including cardiovascular diseases, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, are still among the leading causes of fatalities in the field.

162. The Special Committee reiterates its belief that the United Nations should set the highest possible medical standards in protecting peacekeepers in the field from infectious diseases and protecting both peacekeepers and the local population from HIV/AIDS. In this regard, the Special Committee recognizes the important work undertaken by HIV/AIDS advisers and focal points in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee continues to underscore the responsibility of troop-contributing countries for ensuring appropriate medical examination and clearance of all United Nations personnel from national contingents in accordance with the medical guidelines for peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat and troop- and police contributing countries to strengthen their efforts to harmonize predeployment and in-country awareness programmes, and to ensure the strict application of United Nations guidelines on medical clearance and medical conditions that preclude deployment. In this regard, the Special Committee recognizes the importance of training all United Nations peacekeeping personnel on medical risks in the mission area in accordance with the guidelines provided, and recognizes the efforts undertaken by the Department of Peacekeeping Support and the Department of Field Support, including through in-mission induction training and peer education, which have resulted in a decrease in the number of deaths from HIV/AIDS.

163. The Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to continue to provide an annual detailed briefing to the Special Committee on the progress made in dealing with health-related issues in peacekeeping operations and in this regard, looks forward to receiving, in advance of its next substantive session, information on the causes and rates of cardiovascular diseases, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, injuries and fatalities in the field, as well as on the status of the implementation of the system for the standardized and streamlined reporting of medical data, across United Nations peacekeeping missions, which are to include, inter alia, repatriation and mortality data.

164. The Special Committee recognizes the ongoing efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to consolidate, standardize and streamline medical data, including through the use of its electronic medical records and occupational health management system, EarthMed. The Special Committee recommends that EarthMed be extended to all peacekeeping operations and be put to use by authorized medical staff at the earliest possible date.

165. The Special Committee takes note of the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to develop guidelines and policies on occupational health, as one possible means of reducing illness and injuries, and enhancing the safety and well-being of peacekeeping personnel in the field. The Special Committee requests information, prior to its next session,

regarding progress in this regard, including results of the implementation of occupational health guidelines in the field and any resultant decrease in illness and injury.

9. Quick-impact projects

166. The Special Committee welcomes the implementation of quick-impact projects by peacekeeping operations and continues to recognize the important contribution that they make to the successful implementation of mandates by addressing the immediate needs of local populations and building confidence in, and support for, peacekeeping missions, their mandates and the peace processes. The Special Committee recognizes that quick-impact projects play a key role in strengthening the link between missions and local populations and in the accomplishment of their objectives, and that their implementation should take into account the situation and needs on the ground.

167. The Special Committee calls for the full implementation of section XVIII of General Assembly resolution 61/276, and stresses that quick-impact projects are an integral part of both mission planning and the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to meet the challenges facing complex peacekeeping operations.

168. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of coordination with humanitarian and development partners so as to prevent duplication and overlap of activities between peacekeeping missions and humanitarian and development partners in the field.

169. The Special Committee further appreciates the voluntary and additional contributions of contingents from troop- and police-contributing countries in funding projects in peacekeeping missions.

170. The Special Committee reiterates its recommendation that selection procedures for quick-impact projects be made more flexible and be conducted, as much as possible, at the field level, under the control of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. It emphasizes the need for these projects to be planned and managed in the most effective manner possible.

171. The Special Committee notes that the Secretariat has made significant progress towards the review of the Policy Directive for Quick-Impact Projects, as requested in paragraph 142 of its report A/64/19, in particular through the preparation of a lessons learned study on the "Management of quick-impact projects". The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue work on the review of the Policy Directive, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution 61/276. Based on the important role that quick-impact projects have had in peacekeeping operations in recent years, the Special Committee suggests that it would be useful to consider the relevance of addressing in the review process the following aspects, among others: the period of implementation of projects; the possibility of applying quick-impact projects so as to create synergies with activities carried out by the United Nations country team and other relevant partners; the advantages of possible involvement of mission contingents, where appropriate, in the implementation of quick-impact projects, taking into account their existing expertise and equipment; and the need for expedited and flexible procedures for the implementation of projects.

10. Other mandated tasks, including the protection of civilians

172. The Special Committee reaffirms that all mandated peacekeeping tasks are to be implemented in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the guiding principles of peacekeeping operations. Such implementation should be supported by a comprehensive peace process involving all stakeholders, underpinned by national ownership and the support of the international community. The Special Committee recognizes that there are a range of important mandated tasks, including, but not limited to, support for the restoration and extension of State authority, support for political processes, and protection of civilians under imminent threat of physical violence, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the host Government to protect civilians. The Special Committee stresses the key importance of close cooperation with national authorities in the implementation of mandated tasks, as appropriate.

173. The Special Committee stresses the importance of the effective and full implementation of mandates and also stresses the need for close cooperation among the Security Council, troop- and police -contributing countries and the Secretariat so as to ensure that peacekeeping mandates are well defined and achievable. Accordingly, United Nations peacekeeping missions must be provided with all the necessary resources in a timely and efficient manner. These should include consolidated and mission-specific training, based on lessons learned and best practices from United Nations peacekeeping missions and Member States, in all related operational matters so as to enhance operational capacity.

174. The Special Committee reaffirms that United Nations peacekeeping operations with mandates for protection of civilians must be provided with the necessary resources to carry out that task, including personnel, mobility assets and capabilities for information-gathering. In this regard, the Special Committee reiterates its requests to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to outline the resource and capability requirements related to the implementation of mandates for protection of civilians, in consultation with troop- and police-contributing countries, so as to ensure an adequate correlation between mandated tasks and the resources provided to peacekeeping operations.

175. The Special Committee expresses its concern at the length of time that it has taken for development of the draft resource and capability requirements for the implementation of protection-of-civilians mandates in United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee underlines the need for appropriate consideration thereof by Member States and encourages the Secretariat to continue to consult troop- and police-contributing countries, as well as other relevant actors within the matrix. The Special Committee stresses, in this regard, the need for a clear assessment of the adequacy of the human and material resources and capabilities that are available to the missions with protection-of-civilians mandates and the ability of the mission to fully implement those mandates.

176. The Special Committee acknowledges that the protection of civilians is currently mandated in a number of United Nations peacekeeping missions. The Special Committee recognizes that protection of civilians is the primary responsibility of the host country and, accordingly, emphasizes that relevant peacekeeping missions with this mandate should conduct their tasks without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the host Government to protect civilians. The Special Committee also acknowledges that the successful conduct of tasks

relating to the protection of civilians under imminent threat of physical violence and within the effective areas of deployment, wherever a United Nations mandate exists, requires a coordinated response from all relevant mission components. The Special Committee continues to recognize the importance of the development and updating, as appropriate, by all peacekeeping missions with protection-of-civilians mandates of comprehensive protection strategies incorporated in the overall mission implementation plans and contingency plans, in consultations with the host Government, local authorities, troop- and police- contributing countries, and other relevant actors, and requests those that have not yet carried out this task, to do so.

177. The Special Committee takes note of the Framework for Drafting Comprehensive Protection of Civilians Strategies in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations as a practical tool for the development of mission-wide protection strategies. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to continue consulting with Member States and all relevant actors on the Framework in order to continue to improve it, based on developments in the field and lessons learned, with due consideration of the full range of views of Member States with the Framework to be updated as required.

178. The Special Committee notes that some peacekeeping missions have developed benchmarks to measure progress in achieving all mandated tasks, including protection of civilians. The Special Committee requests further information on how such tools can help peacekeeping operations highlight the ways and means required to support continued implementation of these tasks.

179. The Special Committee notes existing measures developed by various peacekeeping missions at the operational level to implement protection of civilian mandates. The Special Committee recognizes the need for baseline guidance on the protection of civilians, from which peacekeeping missions would develop their own mission-specific guidance.

180. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of improving planning processes as well as training, and recalls its request to the Secretariat to develop, as appropriate, training modules for all mandated tasks, including protection of civilians, for peacekeeping personnel, including senior mission leadership before and during deployment, based on lessons learned from past and existing peacekeeping missions and case analysis. The Special Committee recognizes the progress made in the development of the protection-of-civilians training modules, as called for by the Committee in its 2010 report and notes the ongoing work regarding predeployment and scenario-based training modules for peacekeeping personnel and their senior mission leadership, and looks forward to the finalization and dissemination of the draft training modules to troop- and police-contributing countries which would allow them to provide their views on the effectiveness of the modules. The Special Committee takes note of the work conducted by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Field Support to ensure that headquarters and in-mission planning processes, including the concept of operations, address protection of civilians in a consistent manner.

181. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to submit proposals on how to improve the ability of existing peacekeeping missions to respond to situations adversely affecting civilians, including all the necessary logistic support and training required for troop-contributing countries.

182. The Special Committee stresses the importance of the mission's having the capacity to interact closely with the host Government, local authorities and the local population in order to raise awareness and understanding of its protection-of-civilians mandate and activities. To this end, the Special Committee requests peacekeeping operations with such mandates to continue engaging, through relevant mission components and in close coordination with national authorities, in public information and outreach strategies, in line with Security Council resolution 1894 (2009). The Special Committee welcomes practices such as the fielding of joint protection teams, community liaison interpreters and civil affairs officers, which improve local-level analysis and assist with expectation management among the local community regarding the role and limitations of the peacekeeping mission.

183. The Special Committee stresses the important role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in taking forward work on the protection of civilians in peacekeeping operations, including work requested by the Committee, in a coordinated and expedient manner. The Special Committee further stresses the importance of coordination at headquarters and in the field by all relevant United Nations actors, in accordance with their respective mandates, on issues relating to protection of civilians in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue improving coordination efforts at headquarters and in the field, taking into consideration the different roles and responsibilities of relevant actors. The Special Committee also encourages further coordination between the United Nations and regional arrangements, as appropriate, on issues relating to the protection of civilians in peacekeeping operations.

H. Cooperation with troop-contributing countries

184. The Special Committee underlines the need for full and effective implementation of the provisions contained in Security Council resolutions 1327 (2000) and 1353 (2001) so as to utilize optimally those mechanisms to forge a stronger relationship between the Council and the troop-contributing countries.

185. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to consult with troop-contributing countries in a timely manner when planning any changes in the military tasks, mission-specific rules of engagement, operational concepts or the command and control structure that would have an impact on the personnel, equipment, training and logistics requirements, so as to enable troop-contributing countries to contribute their advice in the planning process and to ensure that their troops have the capacity to meet the new demands.

I. Triangular cooperation between the Security Council, the Secretariat and the troop- and police-contributing countries

186. The Special Committee underlines the need to enhance the relationship between those who mandate, plan and manage United Nations peacekeeping operations and those who implement the mandate of those operations. The Special Committee acknowledges the note by the President of the Security Council of 14 January 2002 (S/2002/56) and the presidential statement of 5 August 2009 (S/PRST/2009/24) and recommends making full use of the consultations with troop- and police-contributing countries in order to involve them early on and fully in all

stages of United Nations peacekeeping operations, including at the request of troop- and police-contributing countries, and in particular in advance of the renewal, adjustment or reconfiguration of an operation by the Council, so that the experience and the expertise of the troop- and police-contributing countries can assist the Council in making appropriate, effective and timely decisions on United Nations peacekeeping operations. This will also have a positive impact on the operations of national contingents.

187. The Special Committee underlines the importance of enhancing the triangular cooperation between troop- and police-contributing countries, the Secretariat and the Security Council in addressing the challenges of peacekeeping. The Special Committee stresses the need to regularly assess, through consultations among the troop- and police-contributing countries, the Secretariat and the Council, the strength and composition of the peacekeeping operations and the implementation of their mandates, with a view to making the necessary adjustments, where appropriate, according to progress achieved or changing circumstances on the ground.

188. The Special Committee also underlines the importance of interaction between troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat in the early stages of planning, and requests the Secretariat to produce predeployment threat assessments and make them available to troop- and police-contributing countries before those countries present their pledges to new missions.

189. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to consult with the troop- and police-contributing countries in a timely manner when planning any change in military and police tasks, mission-specific rules of engagement, operational concepts or command and control structure that would have an impact on the personnel, equipment, training and logistics requirements, so as to enable troop- and police- contributing countries to contribute their advice during the planning process and to ensure that their troops have the capacity to meet the new demands.

190. The Special Committee welcomes the organization by the Presidency of the Security Council of open and inclusive thematic debates on the issues of peacekeeping and stresses the importance of optimal participation of troop- and police-contributing countries in those debates.

191. The Special Committee underlines the importance of the ongoing practice of interaction between the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations and troop- and police-contributing countries and welcomes the progress already achieved in this regard.

192. The Special Committee reiterates the necessity for troop- and police-contributing countries to be provided with comprehensive briefings on a regular basis on the situation of each peacekeeping operation. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to meet reporting deadlines and circulate copies of the reports of the Secretary-General in all official languages on specific United Nations peacekeeping operations and encourages the Secretariat to organize regular meetings with troop- and police-contributing countries, ideally one week prior to Security Council consultations on mandate renewals. This will enable troop- and police-contributing countries to properly prepare for the meeting and participate more fully, including in the event of a serious incident.

193. The Special Committee recognizes the importance of the work of the Security Council Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations and expresses its willingness to develop a substantial interaction between the two bodies.

194. The Special Committee welcomes the improvements effected by the Security Council through the holding of private meetings with troop- and police-contributing countries in a timely manner, and encourages those countries to participate actively in the meetings, including by providing assessments and feedback from their troops and personnel on the ground.

195. The Special Committee takes note of the efforts made by the Secretariat to respond rapidly to requests for information by troop- and police-contributing countries on the latest developments in current operations. It encourages further improvements in that regard.

196. The Special Committee underlines the necessity for the Secretariat to provide the Security Council, troop- and police-contributing countries and other key stakeholders with an early assessment of capabilities, force generation and logistic resource requirements prior to the launching of a new operation or a major reconfiguration of a current peacekeeping operation.

197. The Special Committee stresses the importance of regular updating, as often as necessary, of the planning documents by the Secretariat so as to ensure consistency with mandates of the Security Council and of informing troop- and police-contributing countries about those updates, and requests the Secretariat to adopt a mission-specific approach to planning, as appropriate, and to inform them in consequence thereof.

198. The Special Committee welcomes the weekly Situation Centre briefing to Member States and urges the Secretariat to continue to incorporate the work of the assessment team in the briefing. The Special Committee calls upon the Secretariat to disseminate notification of these briefings to members of the Committee in a timely manner.

199. Noting the interest expressed by troop- and police-contributing countries, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure the timely dissemination to members of the Special Committee, of Department of Peacekeeping Operations/ Department of Field Support policy papers, guidance and training documents, manuals and regulations, and requests the Secretariat to ensure that such documentation is consolidated, updated and incorporated into a database which can be easily accessed.

200. The Special Committee believes that predeployment visits for military contributions and assessment visits for formed police units are an important step in the process of force generation. To make better use of the current practice, the Special Committee continues to recommend that guidelines for such visits be improved and measures taken to ensure that they are adequately conducted.

J. Cooperation with regional arrangements

201. Bearing in mind the primacy of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, the Special Committee reaffirms the important contribution that regional arrangements and agencies can make to peacekeeping, in

accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, and when the mandate and capacity of regional arrangements or agencies allow.

202. The Special Committee recognizes the valuable work of those regional arrangements or agencies in supporting United Nations peacekeeping and in enhancing the common ability of their Member States to contribute to peacekeeping operations, including through the development of capabilities.

203. The Special Committee welcomes all positive developments in the field of cooperation with regional arrangements or agencies and encourages the Secretariat to further strengthen those linkages, such as the cooperation with the African Union and the European Union, as described in the Secretary-General's report (A/65/680), so as to better plan, deploy and conduct peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee also takes note of the Secretariat's efforts, as presented in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee (A/65/680), to seek new opportunities for cooperation with other regional arrangements, such as the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

204. The Special Committee notes the Secretariat's efforts to find new avenues of approach to drawing on partnerships with the regional arrangements that may increasingly contribute to United Nations peacekeeping. The Special Committee notes that these efforts have helped enhance contributions in some peacekeeping operations where cooperation with regional arrangements has played a complementary role in respect of the force generation of the United Nations.

205. The Special Committee recognizes the growing importance of partnership and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements in planning and conducting United Nations peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue developing exercise and training policies with these regional arrangements aimed at improving interoperability and to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and those regional arrangements.

206. The Special Committee acknowledges the work being carried out by the Secretariat regarding the lessons learned from cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements, including but not limited to the African Union and European Union, in peacekeeping and requests the Secretariat to address issues already identified. In this respect, the Special Committee acknowledges the readiness of the Secretariat to enhance opportunities and seek new ones for engagement with regional arrangements on a range of issues and encourages the Secretariat to continue to explore the possibility of exchanging relevant information aimed at improving interoperability and enhancing operational effectiveness.

K. Enhancement of African peacekeeping capacities

207. The Special Committee underlines the need for a strategic and effective relationship between the United Nations and the African Union in the context of peacekeeping operations, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, and re-emphasizes the importance of increasing and enhancing the capacity of the African Union in the areas of conflict prevention and resolution, early warning, mediation and peacekeeping operations. In this regard, there is a

need for coherent and effective coordination of support provided by multiple stakeholders to the African Union in the field of peacekeeping capacity-building.

208. The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of implementing the Joint Action Plan for United Nations Support to the African Union in peacekeeping in the short, medium and long terms, and the 10-year plan for capacity-building. The Special Committee further emphasizes the need for the provision of support for conflict prevention and resolution, early warning and mediation to the African Union. The Special Committee reiterates its request that the established multidisciplinary African Union peacekeeping support team continue to serve as a coordinating point for all issues in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations related to cooperation with the African Union, and to brief the Committee regularly on its functioning and mandate, particularly with regard to the question of providing much-needed support to the regional and subregional capacity. In this connection, the Special Committee stresses the importance of strengthening the African Union Peace and Security Architecture. The Special Committee recognizes the potential contribution of the African standby force to peace and security in Africa.

209. The Special Committee underlines the importance of addressing the requirements of the African Union in the context of peacekeeping at the continental level. In this regard, the Special Committee takes note of the report prepared by the African Union-United Nations panel on modalities for support to African Union peacekeeping operations (see A/63/666-S/2008/813) and the report of the Secretary-General on support to African Union peacekeeping operations authorized by the United Nations (A/64/359-S/2009/470) and recommends the enhancement of effective partnership with the African Union to improve the planning, deployment and management of African peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee recognizes the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing peacekeeping operations undertaken under a United Nations mandate.

210. The Special Committee reaffirms the need to strengthen training, logistics and other forms of support to the African Union that are crucial for effective and secure peacekeeping. This will further enhance cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in the area of peacekeeping and the deployment of United Nations peacekeeping missions in Africa, thereby supporting capacity-building of the African Union in the field of peacekeeping operations and ensuring cost-effectiveness. The Special Committee therefore stresses the importance of close coordination between all international partners and donors supporting African Union capacity-building, including through enhancing the effectiveness of existing training centres in Africa.

L. Developing stronger United Nations field support arrangements

211. The Special Committee recognizes the challenges faced by the Organization in providing logistic, administrative and information and communications technology support for peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee notes that the intent of the Global Field Support Strategy is to improve the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery in an integrated, accountable and transparent manner and is aimed at both enabling timelier mission start-up and improving the support to mission operations. In this respect, the Special Committee notes the launching of the Strategy by the General Assembly in section VI of resolution 64/269, recognizes

that the Assembly will take a further decision on implementing the Strategy during the second resumed part of its sixty-fifth session, looks forward to its continued implementation in close consultation with Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries, and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/65/643) regarding the progress in its implementation, which incorporates an overview of the activities undertaken and results achieved during the first five months of implementation.

212. The Special Committee remains committed to the consideration of any new proposals conducive to the enhancement of the United Nations capacity to fulfil its responsibilities in the field of peacekeeping, in accordance with its mandate to comprehensively review the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all its aspects. The Special Committee recognizes that the Global Field Support Strategy was developed by the Secretary-General as a five-year process designed to transform the delivery of support services to the United Nations field missions.

213. The Special Committee recognizes that work is being done by the Secretariat on components of the strategy — a financial framework, predefined modules and service packages, service centres both global and regional, and an integrated human resources management framework — as mandated in section VI of its resolution 64/269, with further decisions to be taken by the General Assembly over the course of the five-year implementation period. The Special Committee reaffirms that an integrated approach will be necessary for the successful implementation of the strategy. Moreover, the Special Committee reaffirms the need for clear management frameworks, reporting lines and accountability arrangements which focus on responsiveness to mission requirements. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to continue its work in close consultation with Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries, as well as with associated field missions.

214. The Special Committee notes the development of a standardized funding model for the first year of peacekeeping operations, as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of section VI of its resolution 64/269, and looks forward to the consideration of the proposal by the Fifth Committee, according to established procedures.

215. The Special Committee recognizes that the objective of the predefined modules and services packages is to improve the speed and predictability of deployment required for mission start-up and to enable the rapid development of infrastructure to support deploying contingents. The Special Committee is encouraged by the collaboration with Member States in developing and implementing the predefined modules and service packages and urges the Secretariat to work in close consultations with Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries, as additional predefined modules and service packages are developed.

216. The Special Committee requests that when developing modules, the Secretariat take into account the importance of reducing the environmental footprint of United Nations field missions.

217. The Special Committee looks forward to the possible implementation of the confirmed modules that are configured from the strategic deployment stocks, as

appropriate, and corresponding service packages in current missions, so that adequate and flexible logistics support to contingents can be improved.

218. The Special Committee notes that the intention of the global service delivery model is to provide support services to field missions and address safety and security challenges for the United Nations personnel in higher-threat areas. The Special Committee notes that the functions and resources to be transferred to the Global Service Centre will be considered in the context of the budget of the United Nations Logistics Base at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The Special Committee recalls paragraph 21 of Assembly resolution 64/269, and the fact that the Assembly, in the same resolution, requested the Secretary-General to propose functions and resources to be transferred to the Global Service Centre, and that functions primarily involving interactions with Member States, particularly troop-contributing countries, will continue to be located at Headquarters.

219. The Special Committee notes the effort made towards the consolidation of administrative and support functions for geographically grouped field missions through the establishment of the Regional Service Centre at Entebbe. The Special Committee takes note of the results achieved to date in enhancing effective service delivery through the consolidation of back-office functions and the support services enumerated in the report of the Secretary-General on the Global Field Support Strategy (A/64/633), including the establishment of the Transportation and Movement Integrated Control Centre.

220. The Special Committee takes note of the introduction of a "control self-assessment" mechanism, in cooperation with the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as part of the risk management framework for the implementation of the Global Field Support Strategy.

221. The Special Committee underlines the importance of the informal briefings and, in order to enable discussions with troop- and police-contributing countries, requests the Secretariat to continue to provide informal bimonthly briefings on the strategy in all its operational aspects.

222. Taking into consideration the fact that the first module prototype will be available by June 2011 (phase IA module) the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to include in the bimonthly briefing the confirmed phase IA of the modularization concept.

223. The Special Committee notes the establishment of the Regional Service Centre Steering Committee and requests the Secretariat to include in the bimonthly briefings the arrangements between missions for the establishment of priorities of work attribution in the Regional Service Centre at Entebbe.

224. The Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing, prior to the next substantive session, on identified benefits to operational activities resulting from the implementation of the Global Field Support Strategy, in particular on how field missions are better supported.

225. The Special Committee reiterates the importance of providing high-quality field service to Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries, and requests the Secretariat to continue to improve its responsive service culture.

M. Best practices

226. The Special Committee notes with satisfaction the development of the website of the Policy, Evaluation and Training Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, entitled "Peacekeeping Resource Hub: Policy, Lessons Learned and Training for the Peacekeeping Community". The Special Committee stresses the need for this website to enhance global peacekeeping capacity by providing the peacekeeping community with timely access to relevant training standards, materials and tools, as well as relevant guidance documents, and for these documents to be translated into the official languages of the United Nations, as necessary. The Special Committee regrets that this website is available only in one official language and requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing before the end of 2011 on the steps taken to make the website available in the official languages of the United Nations.

227. The Special Committee, bearing in mind that major crises, including natural disasters, can have strong effects on United Nations peacekeeping operations, reiterates its requests to the Secretariat to provide the Special Committee with a report on the likely impact that such events may have on missions and how the United Nations is able to respond to them, in particular through contingency planning.

228. The Special Committee reiterates its request contained in paragraph 185 of its report (A/64/19) and, taking note of paragraph 80 of the addendum to the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee (A/65/680/Add.1) in relation to contingency planning, requests a briefing before the end of June 2011, on the business continuity planning template referred to in the report, which has been issued to field operations.

N. Training

229. The Special Committee reiterates the shared responsibility of the troop-contributing countries and the Secretariat in providing adequately trained personnel with the required professional background, expertise and capabilities according to United Nations standards. In that regard, the Special Committee encourages the Secretariat to continue to utilize training and assessment teams regularly before deployments, as they have proved to be valuable tools both in detecting shortfalls and in assisting in overcoming them. To this end, the Special Committee reaffirms that explicit and comprehensive training modules need to be improved and provided to Member States.

230. The Special Committee stresses that peacekeeping training is integral to ensuring the ability of United Nations peacekeepers to successfully implement peacekeeping mandates on the ground and their safety and security in volatile environments. The Special Committee therefore expresses concern over the decision of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations regarding the allocation of its resources away from training activities. The Special Committee requests a briefing from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations regarding the projected impact of this decision on the development and delivery of training at a time when training needs are expanding and diversifying, and how the implementation of its partnership

strategy, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress of training in peacekeeping (A/65/644 and Corr.1), might offset this impact.

231. The Special Committee notes that the full development of the peacekeeping training architecture requires an extensive partnership with peacekeeping training institutions worldwide, as well as with training entities within the Secretariat and the wider United Nations system. The Special Committee takes note of the ongoing efforts referred to in the Secretary-General's report on the progress of training in peacekeeping (A/65/644) regarding cooperation among the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the United Nations System Staff College with regard to the delivery of the Senior Mission Leaders Course and the development of a common peacekeeping curriculum and scenario-based exercises, which aim at building synergies among training entities. In this regard, the Special Committee requests that the Secretariat keep Member States informed about the implementation of this partnership strategy and report, before the end of 2011, on how such partnerships improve the coordination, effectiveness, and delivery of peacekeeping training programmes for peacekeepers.

232. The Special Committee acknowledges that predeployment training of contingents and individuals is a national responsibility. The Special Committee requests a consolidated update on predeployment training strategy, regulations and opportunities currently open to Member States to ensure that troops and police committed to United Nations peacekeeping operations are properly prepared for their mission. This briefing should cover, but not be limited to, training for military staff officers, observers and contingents, and individual police and formed police units, and should take account of projects being undertaken by the Office of Military Affairs, the United Nations Police Division and the Integrated Training Service of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The Special Committee requests this briefing before October 2011.

233. Predeployment visits are an essential tool in assisting the deploying unit in focusing on the requirements necessary to carry out the mandated tasks of the mission. In this regard, the Special Committee calls on the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to work with troop- and police-contributing countries in designing a visits system which would be mutually beneficial in ensuring a common understanding of United Nations-issued training documents prior to field deployment.

234. The Special Committee, taking into account the fact that the increasing complexity of peacekeeping operations and the continuously rising demand for resources necessitate further cooperation in peacekeeping training among Member States, including provision of training opportunities and assistance to new and emerging troop-contributing countries, urges the Secretariat to continue to facilitate capacity-building efforts through both the application of the "train the trainers" concept and the best use of available resources, including extensive capacity-building programmes led by multilateral and bilateral actors.

235. Recalling paragraph 188 of its 2010 report (A/64/19), the Special Committee welcomes progress made in translating peacekeeping training materials and requests the Secretariat to continue to strengthen its efforts to make all these documents available in the six United Nations official languages as soon as possible so as to ensure wide use of these materials by all Member States.

236. The Special Committee takes note of the ongoing work of the Integrated Training Service concerning the development of a set of minimum training standards and training modules, and welcomes the updating of these training materials through the inclusion of information on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and HIV/AIDS. The Special Committee also notes with satisfaction that supplementary training guidance on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, and HIV/AIDS has been included in the Mission-Specific Induction Training Standards issued in August 2010.

237. The Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to ensure the provision of adequate and updated gender-sensitivity training material to national and regional peacekeeping training centres.

238. The Special Committee acknowledges the establishment of the peacekeeping training Community of Practice website (http://pktcop.unlb.org) by the Integrated Training Section of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations as a means of enabling the sharing of expertise and encourages all Member States to ensure the registration of their trainers and the maximum use of the facility by their peacekeeping training centres.

239. The Special Committee supports the efforts of Member States, and regional arrangements within their mandates, to enhance the capacity of peacekeeping personnel at peacekeeping training centres, and encourages Member States to provide further support for these efforts. The Special Committee also supports the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in providing those peacekeeping training centres, as well as national training focal points, with the necessary guidance for training United Nations peacekeeping personnel. In this regard, the Special Committee looks forward to receiving a comprehensive briefing on the Department's training guidance materials for those centres, and revised procedures and criteria for United Nations recognition of the centres' courses. The Special Committee highlights the importance of a more expedited process in the resumption of the recognition process. In addition, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to investigate the possibility of certifying training centres and to report back before the Committee's next substantive session.

240. The Special Committee recalls paragraph 151 of its report (A/63/19) and reiterates its requests to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations for an update on the progress made on the standardized training modules for potential senior mission leaders and a training package on the integrated mission planning process.

241. The Special Committee recalls paragraphs 152 and 194 of its reports A/63/19 and A/64/19, respectively, and notes with concern that the finalization of training standards, deployment guidelines for formed police units and specialized training modules for formed police units has not been carried out. The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to ensure their completion before the end of 2011.

242. Recalling paragraph 154 of its 2009 report (A/63/19), in which the Special Committee called upon the Secretariat to evaluate the Senior Mission Administration and Resource Training programme, including the post-course analysis of each programme, and the progress of the integration of the conduct of the programme into the Integrated Training Service, the Special Committee requests the Secretariat to provide a briefing on the findings of the evaluation by the end of September 2011.

243. The Special Committee notes the sustained increase in the police dimension in a number of missions, and further stresses the need to address shortfalls in the standing force requirement in the field of police, subject to consultations with Member States. The Special Committee underscores the need to maintain an appropriate support and guidance capacity at United Nations Headquarters in order to ensure adequate oversight and guidance for the field and to complement the work of the Integrated Training Service. With regard to the growing expertise required in the peacekeeping missions, the Special Committee requests the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to recommend measures to address the training gap.

244. The Special Committee takes note of the ongoing need for e-learning on peacekeeping, which must continue to be provided in order to serve the needs of the peacekeeping community. The Committee further recognizes that e-learning provides a very economical, efficient and effective means of providing standard training to the widely distributed population of military peacekeepers, police and civilians.

245. The Special Committee welcomes the contribution of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to peacekeeping training through its new "training of trainers" programme, currently being implemented in Africa, which aims to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills to the national and regional training institutions in a sustainable manner, as well as capacity-building. The Special Committee requests this training of trainers programme to be expanded to other regions, including Asia and Latin America.

246. The Special Committee welcomes the free and multilingual delivery of e-learning courses on peacekeeping provided by the Peace Operations Training Institute, and encourages Member States to support, including through the provision of voluntary financial contributions, the creation of additional courses. The Special Committee further welcomes the Institute's E-Learning for African Peacekeepers and E-Learning for Peacekeepers from Latin America and the Caribbean programmes, both of which are now supported through voluntary contributions. The Special Committee also welcomes the integrated distance-learning programmes provided directly to the peacekeeping missions by the Institute. The Special Committee encourages the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to work with the Institute in actively promoting e-learning on peacekeeping, developing additional materials and ensuring the dissemination of this e-learning to all mission personnel.

247. The Special Committee welcomes the contribution by the United Nations-mandated University for Peace in the area of peacekeeping and peacebuilding training and encourages the University and the Peace Operations Training Institute to investigate the possibility of revitalizing their partnership.

248. The Special Committee, while recognizing the important role currently being played by non-United Nations partners in the provision of peacekeeping training, underscores the primary role of the Policy, Evaluation and Training Division, together with Member States, in developing peacekeeping training standards and advice in respect of the implementation of standards by training partners. The Special Committee urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to engage with Member States, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the University for Peace, the Peace Operations Training Institute, and other training partners so as to ensure the continued strengthening of coordination in the peacekeeping training field and to prevent overlap and duplication.

249. The Special Committee reaffirms the Charter of the United Nations and acknowledges the importance of, inter alia, international humanitarian law, international human rights law and international refugee law. The Committee therefore encourages the widest possible dissemination of information among peacekeeping personnel about the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian law, international human rights law and international refugee law, including in training materials, so as to enable them to understand how the implementation of the mandated tasks intersects with these fields of law, and to act accordingly.

O. Personnel

250. The Special Committee recognizes the efforts made by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support with regard to balanced recruiting of staff in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and relevant General Assembly resolutions, and urges the Secretary-General to continue his efforts. The Special Committee reiterates that, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter, in the employment of staff, the paramount consideration shall be the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and that due regard shall be paid to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible. The Special Committee notes that the gender perspective should continue to be pursued in accordance with relevant Assembly resolutions.

251. The Special Committee believes that appropriate representation in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and peacekeeping missions should also take into account the contributions of Member States. The Special Committee urges the Secretary-General to ensure a fair representation of troop-contributing countries when selecting personnel for such staff positions.

252. The Special Committee recalls section I, paragraph 6, of General Assembly resolution 55/238; paragraph 11 of resolution 56/241; paragraph 19 of resolution 61/279; and paragraph 71 of resolution 64/243, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support.

253. The Special Committee, recalling General Assembly resolutions 63/250 and 65/247, expresses concern at the continuing low proportion of women in the Secretariat, in particular the low proportion of women from developing countries, especially at the senior levels, and stresses that, in the recruitment process, the continuing lack of representation or the underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular developing countries, should be taken into account, and that those women should be accorded equal opportunities, in full conformity with relevant resolutions.

254. The Special Committee, recalling General Assembly resolutions 63/250 and 65/247, reiterates the request to the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure, at the senior and policymaking levels of the Secretariat, equitable representation of Member States, especially those with inadequate representation at those levels, and to continue to include relevant information thereon in future reports to the Special Committee.

255. The Special Committee remains concerned about the high number of vacancies in peacekeeping missions, and reiterates its requests to the Secretariat to accelerate the recruitment and approval process of personnel, including senior mission leadership. The Special Committee recalls General Assembly resolutions 63/250, 65/247 and 65/248, and reiterates its requests to the Secretary-General to swiftly implement the decisions on contractual arrangements and harmonization of conditions of service, as a means of dealing with the high-vacancy issue in peacekeeping operations.

256. The Special Committee notes with concern the ongoing delays in the recruitment and selection process for appointments of military and police specialists in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to expedite the recruitment and selection system for seconded military and police personnel, with a view to filling vacant positions in a timely manner.

257. The Special Committee underlines that, in the selection of Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and other posts of senior mission leadership, the leadership competencies of the candidates are and should continue to be one among other prominent considerations, in accordance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations.

258. In the context of human resources management and the ongoing reform in this area, the Special Committee recalls that the General Assembly, in paragraph 4 of section VIII of its resolution 63/250, requested the Secretary-General to submit proposals on a strategy to implement an efficient and effective training and professional development programme. The Special Committee reiterates its support for the exploration of this issue, with a view to improving retention of valuable staff in the United Nations peacekeeping bodies.

259. The Special Committee recognizes the continuing need for competent civilian components in peacekeeping operations, and notes that the Secretary-General, in his report on peacebuilding in the immediate aftermath of conflict (A/63/881-S/2009/304), underlines the need for improved mobilization of relevant resources.

260. The Special Committee, recalling paragraph 6 of section XI of General Assembly resolution 59/296, requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure greater use of national staff in peacekeeping operations, when appropriate. The Special Committee underscores the advantages of local recruitment in peacekeeping missions, and the positive impact of those recruited on the relations with the host society.

261. The Special Committee recalls that English and French are the two working languages of the Secretariat. The Special Committee underlines the importance of effective interaction between Headquarters and the field so as to ensure efficient communications and the safety of all peacekeeping personnel. In this regard, it encourages the Secretary-General to take steps to employ staff in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support who are competent in the working languages of the Secretariat.

262. The Special Committee acknowledges that the interaction of United Nations military, police and civilian personnel with the local population is necessary for the efficient and successful implementation of peacekeeping operations. To that end, language skills are required and shall constitute an important element of the selection and training processes. Therefore, the Special Committee urges the

Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to make further efforts towards recruiting staff and experts on mission with language skills that are relevant to the particular mission area where they are to be deployed, so that specific requirements of peacekeeping operations can be addressed. In particular, good command of the official language spoken in the country should be taken into account as an essential asset during these processes.

263. The Special Committee reminds the Secretariat that staff sent to United Nations field operations to conduct examinations for experts on mission, in particular examinations in language and driving skills, are to be certified and to adhere to examination criteria based on the standard United Nations programmes.

264. The Special Committee is concerned that the United Nations death and disability claims process for peacekeeping personnel is overly cumbersome, lengthy and lacking in transparency. The Special Committee notes also that discrepancies exist between the compensation benefits provided to experts on mission and those provided to members of contingents. The Special Committee notes the increase in the level of compensation for all categories of uniformed personnel, pursuant to the decision of the General Assembly as contained in paragraph 3 of section II of General Assembly resolution 64/269.

265. The Special Committee recalls paragraph 4 of section II of General Assembly resolution 64/269, in which the Assembly expressed deep concern about the delays in the settlement of claims in respect of death and disability and requested the Secretary-General to take urgent measures to eliminate the existing backlog of death and disability claims pending for more than three months and to report on the progress made to the Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-fifth session.

266. The Special Committee recalls paragraph 6 of section II of General Assembly resolution 64/269, in which the Assembly reaffirmed its resolution 52/177 and requested the Secretary-General to ensure that, accordingly, all uniformed personnel deployed in peacekeeping operations should continue to be eligible for death and disability compensation during the entire period of their deployment.

P. Financial issues

267. The Special Committee recalls all provisions of resolutions, in particular paragraph 1 of resolution 61/279, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters. The Special Committee also recalls rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly.

268. The Special Committee again stresses that all Member States must pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions. It reaffirms the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly, bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security, as indicated in Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963.

269. The Special Committee expresses concern over the significant amounts of outstanding reimbursements that the United Nations currently owes to troop-contributing countries, which may adversely affect the capacity of this important

tool for United Nations peacekeeping. The Special Committee also notes that there are still contributors that have not yet been reimbursed for their participation in various ongoing and closed missions, going back more than a decade. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to define practical modalities with Member States in a situation of arrears in order to address this exceptional circumstance, and to inform Member States at the earliest opportunity of progress made in this endeavour.

270. The Special Committee stresses the importance of ensuring the timely reimbursement of troop-contributing countries for their peacekeeping contributions. In this regard, the Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure the rapid processing and payment of reimbursements, mindful of the adverse effects of such delays on the capacities of troop-contributing countries to sustain their participation.

271. The Special Committee stresses the need to ensure speedy and appropriate follow-up on compensation claims submitted by troop- and police-contributing countries in cases of illness, disability or death attributable to service. The Special Committee also stresses that the issue of payment of compensation in these cases needs to be dealt with as a priority.

272. The Special Committee expresses its concern at the delays experienced in housing peacekeeping personnel in appropriate accommodations which provide adequate protection against the elements in all missions, and requests the Secretariat to take the necessary measures to improve the situation pursuant to the Contingent-Owned Equipment Manual.

273. The Special Committee notes the review of the methodology for rates of reimbursement on account of troop costs and related allowances, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/285, and also notes that proper analysis of the results of the periodic surveys could help decisions in the Fifth Committee.

274. The Special Committee notes with concern the difficulties experienced by Member States in providing the data requested by the survey questionnaire under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 63/285. In this regard, the Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to intensify the efforts of the Secretariat, in particular the Department of Field Support and the Department of Management, to work closely with troop-contributing countries with a view to facilitating data collection and assisting in the completion of the questionnaire, in order to maintain the process within the envisaged time frame.

275. The Special Committee notes that the last review of troop costs was in 1992, with a subsequent ad hoc increase in 2002, and that troop-contributing countries have expressed concern that this has placed a difficult financial burden on them, which they assert could jeopardize the sustainability of participation in peacekeeping operations. The Special Committee recognizes that, owing to these concerns, this issue will be given due consideration by the Fifth Committee at the second part of the resumed sixty-fifth session.

Q. Other matters

276. The Special Committee, as the only forum mandated to review comprehensively the whole question of United Nations peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, regrets the fact that documents provided for its substantive sessions

are not submitted in a timely manner. This impacts negatively on its working methods. The Special Committee urges the Secretariat to ensure that documentation intended for discussions during its formal sessions is available in line with the six-week rule of issuance of documentation in the six official languages, in order that it may continue and further improve its work, and make it as relevant and as effective as possible.

277. The Special Committee encourages its members to continue to hold an informal dialogue with a view to enhancing the work of its Working Group, without prejudice to the rules and procedures of the General Assembly and its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 1965. The Special Committee encourages the Bureau to facilitate this dialogue and to keep Member States updated on developments related thereto prior to its next session.

278. The Special Committee takes note of the Environmental Policy for United Nations Field Missions developed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, and stresses the importance of peacekeeping missions' taking steps aimed at implementing sound environmental practices. The Special Committee recommends that the Secretariat brief the Committee on United Nations environmental policy, as it relates to field missions, before the Committee's next session.

Annex

Composition of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations at its 2011 session

Members: The Special Committee currently consists of the following 147 members: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Observers: Liberia, Holy See, African Union, European Union, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Criminal Court, International Criminal Police Organization, International Organization of la Francophonie, Organization of the Islamic Conference, Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

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